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Jasione montana in New England.

In the summer of 1894 a fragment of a plant was handed to me by Mr. J. T. Smith, who collected it the year previous (July, 1893), while wheeling along the old West road on Conanicut Island, R. I., where, as he said, it grew in "great profusion." The specimen was so fragmentary that little attempt was made to determine its name, but it was laid aside with the data to await future collections or information.

Early in July, 1895, a complete plant of the same was sent from Conanicut Park by Mrs. H. R. Teel, with a request for its name. It proved to be the European Sheeps's-bit (*Jasione montana* L.). Early in August (1895) I visited the island and walked the whole length of the West road, from the north end of the island to the village of Jamestown. From observations on this walk, and from information furnished by Mrs. Teel, who has resided on the island for more than a dozen summers, I learned that the plants have been growing for at least five years, at a station about 1¼ miles southwest of the Conanicut Park Hotel, where, at the time of my visit, it gave a decided blue tinge to several acres of fields and sandy roadsides. The field where it was most abundent showed signs of having once been cultivated, but not very recently.

It is reported to grow sparingly on the East road about a mile from the above mentioned station, and the specimen sent by Mrs. Teel was from the East road about one-fourth mile south of the hotel. Specimens have also been collected by A. Green, Esq., Mrs. S. O. Metcalf and others, at the West road station. Mr. Greenman of the Gray Herbarium writes that it was reported to them from Reading, Mass., in 1891 by Mr. W. H. Manning. The last mentioned botanist informs me that a few plants only were noticed, growing with *Filago minima*, between rows of young nursery stock imported from France, but he believes it did not appear the next year. He has an idea that it is growing on the Boston Back Bay Fens, but is not sure. According to Prof. Britton it has been collected on ballast grounds on New York Island, as shown by specimens in Columbia University Herbarium.

Perhaps some readers of the BULLETIN can add to this record. If so, the writer would be pleased to hear from them. Can any-

one give any definite information in regard to the Boston Back Bay locality?

The plant, as it occurs in Rhode Island, is 1½–2 ft. high, sometimes scarcely branched, but usually much branched either below or above; with solitary naked pedunculate involucrate head-like clusters of blue flowers, ½–¾ of an inch in diameter. Flowers pedicellate; calyx-lobes and the divisions of the deeply parted corolla linear; anthers united; ovary and fruit 2-celled; ovules and seeds numerous. J. FRANKLIN COLLINS.

BROWN UNIVERSITY HERBARIUM, PROVIDENCE.

Botanical Notes.

The second annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America will be held in Buffalo, N. Y., on Friday and Saturday, August 21 and 22, 1896. The Council will meet at 1:30 p. m. on Friday, and the Society will be called to order at 3 p. m., by the retiring president, Dr. William Trelease, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden. The President-elect, Dr. Charles E. Bessey, Professor of Botany in the University of Nebraska, will then take the chair. The afternoon session will be devoted to business. At the evening session the retiring President will deliver a public address on "Botanical Opportunity." The sessions for the reading of papers will be held on Saturday at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. The Botanical Society of America is affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, whose sessions this year begin on Monday, August 24th, in Buffalo.

C. R. BARNES, *Secretary.*

Reviews.

The Structure and Development of the Mosses and Ferns (Archegoniatae). By Douglas Houghton Campbell. 544 pp. 8vo. Price $4.00. Macmillan & Co. 1895.

This book has been welcomed by all students of the Mosses and Ferns and has everywhere been received with gratitude. From the fact that it gives us in a compact form and clear style the most recent results of foreign investigation into the life-history and em-